

Council, and the Council in turn refers back to it the problems whose details require to be worked out more carefully than can be done in general meetings.

The League for the Conservation of Public Health had its origin in the Publicity Bureau, but is independent of the Society. It is sponsored by men intimately connected with the Bureau, and co-operates with it. While it is an association whose function is to deal with medical problems and public health measures and work, it is not, strictly speaking, a portion of the State Society. It fills a long-felt want in the profession, and renders to medicine a service which the State Society did not and could not give.

The funds which accrue for the support of the Publicity Bureau are maintained separately from those of the general society work, and they are expended under the direction of the Council to further the work of the Bureau and the protection of the interests of the Society.

The Council has endeavored in the war crisis which has just passed to meet the exigencies of the situation and to carry us safely through to a peace basis. By its action of calling for a special war tax, the finances of the Society have been maintained unimpaired, and the Council wishes to thank the members who responded so cheerfully to this call for help. By its means we have held our membership up to its standard and protected the interests of the men who went to war.

Our finances are in excellent condition. For the first time in many years, it has not been necessary to borrow money to carry on the work of the central office at the end of the fiscal year. In spite of the high cost of everything, we did not have to raise the assessment of our members.

The publication of the Journal has been continued, even though labor and paper have almost doubled in price, and we can congratulate ourselves upon the friendly relation and the unselfish principles of our printers, The James H. Barry Co. This firm has done the magazine work of the Journal for many years, and has been a loyal friend in these perplexing times.

The Council feels that the principles maintained by our editor, Dr. Alfred C. Reed, have been all of a very high standard, and that the entire publication is a credit to the profession of the State of California. The Council takes this occasion to express its appreciation of the work done in this department.

The legal problems of the past year have been most admirably handled by the General Attorney, Mr. Hartley F. Peart, and the Assistant General Attorney, Mr. Hubert T. Morrow. Their advice and legal defense have been of utmost value to our members. It has become apparent that it is greatly to the interest of the Society that the General Attorney should attend the Council and State Meetings. His advice is essential in every critical phase of our work and development.

The Indemnity Defense Fund stands unimpaired by the passage of time. No adverse judgments have reduced its principal. The one thing necessary to make it completely successful is an increased number of contributors. We urge all members to join the Fund. By doing so they not only obtain financial protection, but the assurance of mutual interest, which is so valuable to them in the time of trouble.

Altogether, the Council feels that the Society has weathered the storm and starts the new year with a fair wind and a bright sky.

The President then called upon the editor of the CALIFORNIA STATE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE, who made the following report:

Gentlemen—The Journal has successfully weathered the unusual handicaps imposed by the war,

and has maintained a satisfactory standard of scientific articles, news and specialties. The Department of Pharmacy and Chemistry, edited by Dr. Felix Lengfeld, has been of special interest and value.

New lines are projected and some have been undertaken in the following particulars:

A department of Industrial Medicine, in which it is hoped to educate the average doctor in the principles and practice of compensation insurance, to develop the strategic relationship of the medical profession to industry, and to keep the doctor informed of progress in civil industrial rehabilitation.

An Immunity Department, in which correspondents may express personal views in unsigned letters. The Journal has not succeeded very well in securing co-operation from the County Societies in the matter of county news. This ought to be a leading feature each month, and one of the most interesting departments. Such a result can only be achieved if all County Societies will take the matter up aggressively.

A special program has been outlined for hospital write-ups, especially the smaller and private hospitals of the State. Such write-ups would enable these hospitals to get a large number of reprints which should form a valuable advertising medium. Whatever develops the small hospital along sound lines also develops the medical profession, just as in the case of the larger metropolitan hospitals. It is felt that the hospital must serve a definite function in the provision of the best possible scientific service to the patient, and as corollaries to this, as a center for the stimulation and improvement of the doctors, and as a health educational center for the community.

It is especially requested that physicians feel free to express views about and to the Journal, either for publication signed or unsigned, or simply for the information of the Editor. The Journal should be not only a reflection of the views and wishes of the organized medical profession of California, but also should lead and direct medical sentiment in public as well as in scientific matters.

Finally, attention is called to the fact that the Journal will be interesting and useful exactly in proportion to the extent to which the medical profession uses it and takes an interest in it.

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE.

The President then called upon H. A. L. Ryfkogel, Chairman of the Auditing Committee.

Dr. Ryfkogel made a verbal report, stating, among other things, that the finances of the Society were in a much more satisfactory condition than at this time last year, and the expenses of running the Society materially lessened.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

The President then called upon the Secretary, Saxton Pope, who made the following report:

It is customary for the Secretary to make his annual report at this time and briefly to state the condition of the Society in general.

In spite of the trying conditions under which we have lived in the past two years. The Medical Society of the State of California has continued its existence and has prospered. We sent over 1000 men to war from our profession. Almost half of these were members of the State Medical Society. Nevertheless, we were able to hold our membership almost to the level of the past few years. We have at present a total of 2300 members in the Society. In spite of the high cost of